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MAR 26 2004

Respectfully submitted,

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

By: Thomas L. Evans
Thomas L. Evans, PTO Reg. No. 35,805
BANNER AND WITCOFF, LTD.

Atty. Docket No.
005127.00138

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Swatee N. SURVE

U.S. Pat. App. No.: 10/077,548

Group Art Unit: 3765

Filed: February 14, 2002

For: DEPOSITION OF ELECTRONIC CIRCUITS ON FIBERS AND OTHER MATERIALS

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450,
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant respectfully asks for reconsideration of this application and the Office Action dated December 22, 2003.

In that Office Action, claims 1, 3-22, 24 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 6,210,771 to Post et al. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection, and courteously asks for its reconsideration.

Claim 1 recites forming at least one electronic component on a fiber. Similarly, claim 12

recites an article of wear with at least one electrical component formed over a surface of a piece of clothing material. Applicant respectfully submits that these features are not taught or suggested by the Post et al. patent.

More particularly, Applicant submits that the Post et al. patent does not teach or suggest actually forming an electronic component on either a fiber or over a surface of a piece of clothing material. Instead, the Post et al. patent describes fabric material wherein the fibers themselves are used to conduct electricity to or from electronic components. Previously manufactured electronic components are then connected to the conductive fibers by, e.g., soldering, and are not formed on the fibers or formed over a surface of the material. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully asks that the rejection of claims 1, 3-22, 24 and 25 be withdrawn.

Next, claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 over the Post et al. patent in view of U.S. 6,472,029 to Skszek. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection as well, and asks for its reconsideration. As previously noted, the Post et al. patent does not teach or suggest forming an electronic component on either a fiber or over a surface of a piece of clothing material, and the Skszek patent does not remedy this omission. The Skszek patent describes a process of employing a laser to form electronic components on a substrate, but nothing in the Skszek patent suggests using a fiber or a piece of material for a substrate. Thus, absent impermissible hindsight, one of ordinary skill in the art would not have been led to combine the Skszek patent with the Post et al. patent in the manner suggested by the Examiner. Applicants therefore ask that the rejection of claim 2 also be withdrawn.

Lastly, claim 23 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 over the Post et al. patent in view of

U.S. Patent No. 5,555,490 to Carroll. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection, and asks for its reconsideration. Like the Post et al. patent, the Carroll patent does not teach or suggest forming an electronic component on either a fiber or over a surface of a piece of clothing material. Instead, the Carroll patent also discloses attaching previously manufactured electronic devices to a garment by, e.g., placing the electronic devices in pockets of a garment. Accordingly, no combination of the Post et al. and Carroll patents would teach or suggest the features of the invention recited in claim 23. Applicant therefore asks that the rejection of claim 23 also be withdrawn.

It is believed that no fees are due for the submission of this Request. If, however, the Commissioner deems that such fees are necessary, or that any other fees are required to maintain the pendency of this application under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or §1.17, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

In view of the above remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the pending claims are allowable, and that this application is therefore in condition for allowance. Favorable action in this regard is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

By: Thomas L. Evans
Thomas L. Evans, Reg. No. 35,805
1001 G Street, N.W., 11th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20001-4597
Telephone: (202) 508-9100
Facsimile: (202) 508-9299